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Byzantine administration in Lower Italy accommodated itself to local circumstances, In th« purely Greek areas, such as Calabria and Qtranto, the officials who carried out the orders of the Catapan were mainly Byzantine and non-native; they were both nominated and controlled by the imperial deputies. But in Apulia proper the Greek authorities had a more difficult problem to face* Here the subject population was of Italo-Lombard stock, attached to an old Teutonic code, and retaining an administrative system similar to that of the neighbouring duchies. It was also of vital importance in the problem that Apulia was essentially a land of "communes," The peasants were mainly to be found, as they are to-day, in towns of greater or less extent, from which they went out at sunrise to their fields, and to which at sunset they returned. Town life, from the* smallest *oppidum* to the capital of Apulia itself, was characteristic of the Adriatic coast and the* interior country. From Bad and Trani inland to Melfi and Canosa, Apulia was studded with considerable towns, and each showed the prevailing impulse towards self-government. The Byzantines, then, had as a political

necessity to recognise this development, The local officials, the *turmarchs,*[1] and the local judges, though often nominated and always ratified by the im-

[1] The Greek Theme was again subdivided Into provlnosi governed by *turmanhs* who were both military commanders and civil officials responsible to the Catapan,